



Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

September 2007

The Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative is an effort presently led by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to facilitate communication and coordination relative to the conservation of Pacific lampreys throughout their range. The goal of the initiative is to develop a Pacific Lamprey Conservation Plan that will lead to restored Pacific lamprey populations and improvement of their habitat.

Why is the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service initiating a Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative (Initiative):

1. Conservation interest in Pacific lamprey has grown in recent years, with increasing attention from Tribes, local, state, and federal agencies, NGOs, and academia. For example, the State of Idaho is currently developing a lamprey conservation management plan and a lamprey symposium was recently held at the 2007 National American Fisheries Society meeting.
2. The FWS has the ability to coordinate and communicate these expanding efforts on the west coast, develop partnerships with the various entities at all organizational levels, communicate with the scientific community, and to implement restoration actions. A coordinated effort will likely increase interest in lamprey conservation regionally (i.e., Columbia River Basin, Klamath Basin, western Oregon and Washington, California, and also rangewide). In addition, a strategic, coordinated approach will more likely result in an increase in funding support for conservation measures, restoration actions, data collection, and research.
3. Little is known about Pacific lampreys. While there appears to be both a decline in distribution and abundance in the western U.S., local distribution and abundance information is lacking. In addition, little is known about their specific life history strategies, habitat use, population structure or the effects of various threats. A collaborative conservation effort will reduce the unknowns and facilitate opportunities to address threats, restore habitat and improve distribution and abundance of Pacific lampreys.

Role of FWS in Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative:

- Coordinate development of a Pacific Lamprey Conservation Plan
- Disseminate information
- Promote conservation partnerships

Expected Outcomes:

- A description and tracking of current knowledge of Pacific lamprey life history, biology, and habitat requirements.
- Identification of Pacific lamprey populations, and their current distribution, abundance, and population structure.
- A rangewide map of historical and current Pacific lamprey distribution.
- Description of known threats and reasons for decline.

- Identification and implementation of a strategy for restoring Pacific lamprey populations.
- Identification of prioritized conservation and restoration actions that result in improvements in conditions for all life history stages including; passage, ammocoete habitat, spawning habitat, and downstream migratory conditions.
- Updated, described, and prioritized research, monitoring and evaluation needs – both regionally and rangewide.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Pacific Lamprey Team Contacts:

Bianca Streif - Oregon

Aquatic Projects Coordinator
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office
2600 SE 98th Ave. Suite 100
Portland, Oregon 97266
(503) 231-6978
bianca_streif@fws.gov

Jody Brostrom – Idaho

Fisheries Biologist
Idaho Fisheries Resource Office
PO Box 18
4147 Ahsahka, ID 83520
(208) 476-2257
jody_brostrom@fws.gov

Christina Luzier –Lower Columbia River

Supervisory Fish Biologist
Columbia River Fisheries Program Office
1211 SE Cardinal Ct., Suite 100
Vancouver, WA 98683
(360) 604-2529
christina_luzier@fws.gov

R.D. Nelle – Mid-Columbia River

Supervisory Fisheries Biologist
Mid-Columbia River Fishery Resource Office
7501 Icicle Road
Leavenworth, WA 98826
(509) 548-7573
rd_nelle@fws.gov

Carrie Cook-Tabor – Western Washington

Senior Fish Biologist
Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office
510 Desmond Drive SE, Ste. 102
Lacey, WA 98503-1263
(360) 753-9512
carrie_cook-tabor@fws.gov

Vicki Finn - Pacific Region

Fisheries Restoration & Recovery Team Leader
Pacific Regional Office
911 NE 11th Ave.
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 872-2763
vicki_finn@fws.gov

Damon Goodman - California

Fish Biologist
Arcata Fish and Wildlife Service
1655 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521
phone: (707) 825-5155
damon_goodman@fws.gov

List of Actions to Implement the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative (Initiative):

Note: *This list will continue to be a dynamic*

#	Action	Date
1	Identify initial U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) points of contact in Oregon, Washington and Idaho to serve on Initiative team.	done
2	Form a lamprey communication team within USFWS to facilitate internal and external communications, including initial rollout of the Initiative and posting on USFWS website.	August 2007
3	Invite interested USFWS staff from both Fisheries and Ecological Services from other areas to participate in the Initiative, this will include at a minimum contacts from: Klamath River Basin, Arcata, Sacramento, Ventura, Carlsbad, Alaska, and International Office (WO) for Pacific Rim areas. Begin internal roll-out of Initiative via Regional Director memo or e-mail.	August 2007
4	Organize forum at the National American Fisheries Society (AFS) meeting (Lamprey Symposium) to discuss the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative. Present information on this Initiative and garner support and interest.	Done <i>Streif lead</i>
5	As a follow-up to the forum at the National AFS meeting, organize and convene a lamprey session at the joint meeting of Western Division and Oregon AFS to be held in Portland, Oregon in May 2008.	May 2008 <i>Initiated</i> <i>Streif lead</i>
6	Enter dialogue with states, Tribes, federal agencies, AFS, Columbia River Basin Lamprey Technical Workgroup members, Native American Fish and Wildlife Society and other interested parties regarding interest level in participation in a Pacific Lamprey Conservation Plan. Identify opportunities and follow-up with actions where appropriate. Identify representatives from each entity to serve on the plan.	<i>Initiated</i>
7	USFWS will coordinate with CRITFC as they develop their Columbia River Basin Lamprey strategy for ceded lands and work with them on the Lamprey Summit II (mid to late 2008). This also includes working with the following individual CRITFC Tribes while keeping CRITFC in the loop (identify key FWS contact for each tribe): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yakima – R.D. Nelle (Mid Columbia FRO) • Umatilla – Bianca Streif (Oregon FWO) • Warm Springs – Bianca Streif/ Christina Luzier (Col. FPO) • Nez Perce – Jody Brostrom (Idaho FRO) 	<i>Initiated</i>
8	USFWS will also work with other individual Tribes, the USFWS tribal liaison, and the BIA as interest and opportunities arise. Current Tribal lamprey partnership efforts include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding of Lamprey Passage Structure on the Umatilla River with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla - Streif • Funding and development of a Western Oregon Lamprey Workshop with the Cow Creek Tribe of the Umpqua Nation – Streif • Colville Tribe efforts – Nelle Other tribal contacts will be made by the USFWS Team.	Ongoing

9	<p><u>Fund <i>immediate</i> Pacific lamprey conservation actions</u> (with high priority on restoring lamprey to inland areas where extirpation is occurring) by developing individual USFWS field office Pacific Lamprey Action Plans. Track and report progress on conservation actions implemented. Encourage other partners to cost-share and/or develop similar mechanisms to help fund immediate conservation actions.</p>	December 2007 for first action plan with annual updates
10	<p><u>Develop a Pacific Lamprey Conservation Plan</u> (Plan) that addresses Pacific lamprey threats; species recovery actions; research and monitoring needs; population status, structure, distribution and abundance; and habitat conservation and restoration opportunities. Steps include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify Plan development team including USFWS, representatives from states, Tribes, federal agencies, and other interested entities • Develop Plan outline and timeline for its development • Bring together USFWS core team and representatives from states, Tribes, scientific community, etc. for initial meeting to formulate a strategy to draft the Plan • Hold meetings and workshops where appropriate to facilitate plan development • Continue communication and outreach efforts in order to integrate efforts among agencies, Tribes, researchers, and other entities • Assemble, write, review, edit, and publish the Plan 	Draft 2008 Final 2009
11	<p>Ensure key research efforts are implemented as identified in the Plan. Track studies and provide this information to interested parties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and coordinate potential new research projects and opportunities. • Identify and coordinate potential funding sources and opportunities. 	2009 and beyond
12	<p>Advocate for, and support implementation of, key conservation efforts and restoration actions. Track and describe current actions. Update the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Plan and provide accomplishment information to interested parties and managers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and coordinate potential new conservation and restoration projects and opportunities. • Identify and coordinate potential funding sources and opportunities. 	Immediate and ongoing
13	<p>Disseminate information regarding Pacific Lamprey conservation efforts at annual coordination meetings. Start within USFWS. Expand coordination meetings to include all partners as quickly as possible.</p>	Hold first meeting in late 2007/early 2008
14	<p>Identify funding for implementation of the Initiative and Plan, including possible neutral facilitator to assist in meetings.</p>	Ongoing